

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

When a variable speed reproduction of a low-time speed like an overtaking reproduction is executed by using an MPEG2 stream, deterioration in picture quality is prevented and low costs are realized. An arrival time of an input TS packet is added by an input counter and the resultant TS packet is recorded onto an HDD. When the TS packet is reproduced from the HDD, the arrival time is extracted from the reproduced TS packet. The arrival time is compared with an output time. When the arrival time reaches a time corresponding to the output time, the TS packet reproduced from the HDD is output. The time base of an output counter is fluctuated by a variable speed counter, thereby enabling the time base at the time of reading out the TS packet from the HDD to be slightly shifted from the time base at the time of recording the TS packet onto the HDD. Thus, a micro variable speed reproduction can be performed. The overtaking reproduction can be performed by such a micro variable speed reproduction.

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